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IDEA-0036/67

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30 August 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy for Operations, OSA

SUBJECT : Additional Weapon for [REDACTED]

25X1

25X1 REFERENCE : A. [REDACTED] dated 4 January 1967
B. [REDACTED] dated 5 January 1967
C. [REDACTED] dated 9 January 1967
D. [REDACTED] dated 9 January 1967
E. [REDACTED] dated 10 January 1967

F. Memo for C/MD/OSA from INTEL/O/OSA
(OSA-0105/67) dated 10 January 1967

G. Memo for Life Support Section, [REDACTED]
from ASD/R&D/OSA (IDEA-0332/67) dated
27 April 1967

25X1

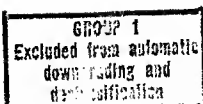
H. Memo for D/O/OSA from ASD/R&D/OSA
(IDEA-0405/67 dated 31 May 1967

I. Memo for D/O/OSA from ASD/R&D/OSA
(IDEA-0533/67) dated 29 August 1967

1. On 4 January 1967 [REDACTED] Detachment
Commander, requested a small caliber pistol be provided
for self defense use by [REDACTED] A .32 caliber revolver
was specifically suggested (Ref. A).

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2. Following an exchange of cables (Refs. B and C) to define the specific requirements, Intelligence Division contacted the ordnance engineers in the Technical Support Division, DDP and obtained their recommendations as to a suitable weapon. The specific requirement was for a small compact handgun suitable for use in self defense [redacted] without extensive weapons training. It was additionally stipulated that the weapon must be lightweight, easy to operate, reliable, and rugged.

3. On 9 January TSD's recommendation, the German Walther PP 7.65 mm (.32 caliber) automatic was submitted to [redacted] (Ref. D) and accepted the following day (Ref. E).

4. A requisition for these weapons was submitted to Materiel Division on 10 January (Ref F). Intelligence Division completed its portion of the requirement in six days.

5. On 30 January Materiel Division received the weapons. Shortly thereafter, one pistol was delivered to [redacted] ASD/R&D/OSA, for holster design and selection of the best location and means of securing same on harness or outer garment.

6. Three months later (27 April 1967) [redacted] requested the Life Support Section, [redacted], headed by [redacted] to fabricate suitable holsters and "select locations where a holster could be attached allowing immediate access without affecting comfort, mobility, pressure suit or parachute functions and without interfering with cockpit controls" (Ref. G). One pistol was shipped to [redacted] for use in completing these tasks.

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25X1 7. Ref. H, memo from [] to the Deputy
25X1 for Operations dated 31 May, claimed [] detachment
really desired a .25 caliber Colt automatic pistol.
[] has a personal weapon of this type).
25X1 According to the memo [] Life Support recommended
the adoption of this weapon vice the Walther 7.65 and
that it be attached to the flying boot. It was stated
"the weapon selected is too large to be safely and
comfortably located on the pilot's boot, coverall or
pressure suit." [] concurred.

25X1 8. Three months later, on 29 August 1967, the
25X1 final report from [] Life Support (Ref. I) was
submitted along with [] concurrence recom-
mending a weapon the size of a .25 caliber Colt or
Browning automatic be utilized and that it be attached
to the flying boot. The Walther 7.65 mm automatic was
dismissed as too large and heavy for placement on the
boot or elsewhere.

9. TSD regards the Colt and Browning .25 caliber
automatics as unsuitable weapons. The ammunition lacks
both penetrating and shock ability. The weapons, designed
to be carried in a lady's handbag, are inaccurate, tend
to misfire, and are easily damaged.

10. It is recommended that the methods used by
combat pilots in Southeast Asia to carry their bulky
service .38 caliber revolvers and a variety of personal
weapons be determined and adopted for use by []
25X1 in carrying the Walther 7.65, a much smaller weapon, or
that the pistols which we have had on hand for six months

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25X1 be shipped to [] and that we rely on []
to provide suitable means for carrying them. 25X1

SIGNED

[] 25X1
Acting Chief, Intelligence Division
Office of Special Activities

Attachments - 9

As stated

25X1 INTEL/O/OSA [] (30 Aug 67)

Distribution:

- #1 - D/O/OSA (w/att)
- #2 - INTEL/O/OSA (w/att)
- #3 - RB (w/o att)

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29 August 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy for Operations, OSA

SUBJECT: Additional Survival Weapon for []

REFERENCE: A. Memo for D/O/OSA, IDEA-0405-67, dtd
31 May 67

B. Memo for Life Support Section, []
IDEA-0332-67, dtd 27 April 1967

1. In response to Reference B, [] Life Support Section has forwarded their recommendations regarding location of the additional survival weapon. Their report and photographs are attached (ATTACHMENT #1).

2. ASD/R&D/OSA concurs with the findings and recommendations of [] Further recommend approval by Intel/O/OSA for incorporation of this holster and action to provide [] with appropriate weapons and instructions.

SIGNED:

ASD/R&D/OSA

ASD/R&D/OSA, [] (29 Aug 67)

Distribution:

- #1 - D/O/OSA (w/att)
- #2 - ASD/R&D/OSA (w/o att)
- #3 - D/R&D/OSA (w/o att)
- #4 - INTEL/O/OSA (w/att)
- #5 - IDEA/O/OSA (w/o att)
- #6 - ASD Chrono (w/o att)
- #7 - RB/OSA (w/o att)

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